



The core TennCare population is based on federally established criteria and is comprised of individuals who qualify for Medicaid by virtue of having a low income and falling into one of the following categories:

- Children
- Pregnant women
- Families receiving public assistance (Families First)
- People with disabilities or chronic illnesses
- People who require care in nursing facilities, or
- Women with breast or cervical cancer

The Medicaid program operates under federal regulations and includes certain groups that the federal government requires that all states cover (the mandatory population) and other groups that states may elect to cover at their own discretion (the optional population).

In addition to the Medicaid population, during FY 04/05, TennCare served a sizeable expansion population including previously uninsured and uninsurable individuals.

Medicare beneficiaries with low incomes were also eligible for TennCare in both the core and expansion population.

Key statistics – The following tables and charts provide enrollment information at mid-point in the fiscal year: December 31, 2004.

Table 6 - Enrollment by Major Eligibility Category and Age

	By Age Group			
Category	All	0 - < 21	21-64	65+
Mandatory Medicaid	952,900	528,200	343,800	80,900
Optional Medicaid	160,100	63,500	68,600	28,000
Expansion Population	244,700	44,900	177,500	22,300
Totals	1,357,700	636,600	589,900	131,200







